

Constitution of the United States.

We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Preamble.
union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the
common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the bless-
ings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish
this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1.

1. All legislative powers herein granted, shall be vested Legislative Pow-
ers.
in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a
Senate and House of Representatives.

SECTION 2.

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of House of Repre-
sentatives
members chosen every second year by the people of the
several states; and the electors in each state shall have the
qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous
branch of the state legislature.

2. No person shall be a Representative who shall not Qualifications.
have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been
seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall
not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which
he shall be chosen.

3. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned Representatives
and Taxes appor-
tioned
among the several states which may be included within this
union, according to their respective numbers, which shall
be determined by adding to the whole number of free per-
sons, including those bound to service for a term of years,
and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other
persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within Enumeration.
three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the
United States, and within every subsequent term of ten
years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The
number of representatives shall not exceed one for every
thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one rep-